

## CLARK IS WHIMSICAL

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were enemies, but they each had bills they wanted to get through Congress. The Southern folks wanted the Capital on the Potomac and Jefferson lacked three votes that Hamilton controlled. So they made a dicker, and here's the Capital.

"I used to think the Capital would be moved inland, but I don't any more. I'll never be moved until it's asked again by an invader and it's been a long time since that happened. I'm against moving it now, but I'd like to make it the most beautiful city in the world."

"Now I want to give you all a piece of fatherly advice: Stop criticizing Congress and say something nice about it occasionally. I've only heard one nice thing said about Congress since 1863, and it's a human collection of men, too. Now I want to tell you why I introduced a bill once to make Washington a territory and give it a representation in Congress. I did it first because I wanted to show I was a good friend of the District, and secondly I was trying to drive the Republicans into a corner on the matter of negro suffrage here."

**Teachers' Pay Top-Heavy.**  
"A boy of 12, revolutionized the District school system. He was my own son, and he paved the way for a delegation of teachers who convinced me later that the system of pay was top-heavy. There'd be seventy-five applications for the job, I used to say there wasn't a man in the House or Senate capable of being a city alderman for Washington. Now I say there are perhaps three or four. Here we have 30,000 people gathered under the shadow of the Capitol with no more voice in their own affairs than have the Fiji Islanders."

"I don't know whether you'll ever get a representative or not. Congress is going to try to hold the reins over the District as long as it can. It's too bad a big city grew up here. You should have had a personal property tax long ago. That would have kept out the millionaires who flocked here to break into society. In order to do this, they spent vast sums of money, and that's why living costs are so high. If you ever tried to pick a delegate, you'd have trouble finding a real citizen for the job. I'm opposed to your local jobs going to out-of-town people."

**Need More Politicians.**  
"Mr. Clark then said there ought to be more politicians in the United States. There were not enough people, he said, who knew enough about the government to touch on George Washington, as the only man who didn't want the Presidency. With an agile mental leap, he next expounded the story of how Pennsylvania citizens lassoed members of the Constitution by leaving the building. "There ought to be an amendment to the Constitution," he continued, "limiting the membership of the House to 300 men. It's too big. It's too hard to keep order. They used to fight frequently in the House. They don't now. I don't let 'em. Nobody up there carries a gun any more."

By way of closing his remarks, the Speaker denied that Shakespeare wrote the plays under his name, which were either written by Lord Bacon or by the literary dilettantes of London, he said. He still reads the Bible, he confessed, which is a model of correct English, but he doubted if King Solomon wrote all the proverbs.

"And I hope," he said, "that Congress will give you a delegate, and it was a pretty smart man you sent up to the Capitol to persuade me to speak here during this session."

Commissioner Brownlow, one of the members of the audience, threw some additional slights of Mr. Clark's Baconian theories, and after so long a time the federation got back to its program of business, but the feature of the evening had passed downstairs in the elevator.

## BALFOUR ARRIVES TODAY

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son, foreign trade department, foreign office; Mr. C. T. Phillips, American and transport department, ministry of munitions; Col. Heron, ordnance and lines of communication; Major Puckle, supplies and transport; Col. Goodwin, war office; Col. Langhorne, war office; Capt. Leeming, Mr. Amos.

Representing Canada will be Sir George Foster, acting prime minister, and Sir Joseph Pope, under secretary of external affairs. They will also arrive today.

**Banquet at White House.**  
Every honor that can be placed at the disposal of visitors will be heaped upon the commissioners during their stay here. They will be banqueted at the White House by President Wilson. Other dinners will be tendered them.

Hugh Gibson, formerly first secretary of the American Embassy in London, but now stationed in the State Department here, will act as personal aid to Mr. Balfour during his stay. Capt. George Quakenbush, former assistant military attaché of the London Embassy, has been assigned as aid to Gen. Bridges.

**Carriage Arrangements.**  
The four will contain Admiral de Chair, Admiral Fletcher, an American naval officer, and the British Ambassador here, Lord Curzon, Assistant Secretary of State Phillips, and Sir Richard Crawford will be in the fifth; sixth, Sir Eric Drummond, Third Assistant Secretary of State, and the Embassy; seventh, Paymaster General Lawford, Capt. Spender Clay, and Capt. Quakenbush; eighth, Lord Percy, Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Dormer, and Mr. Butler.

Every department of governmental and war activity is represented in the visiting commission—shipping, munitions, blockade, finance, agriculture, military, naval, ordnance, intelligence, transport, food, espionage, aviation, transportation, and statistics.

The mistakes which the British government has made—paid dearly for in treasure and blood—will be pointed out to officials of this government and care will be taken by this government not to fall into the same pitfalls.

**Four Big Problems.**  
Four gigantic problems stand head and shoulders above the countless ones that will be taken up in the conferences. These are: (1) measures to combat the German submarine menace; (2) the alarming shortage of ocean tonnage; (3) the even more alarming world food shortage, and measures to increase production, and lastly the opening of America's bulging financial chest to the allies.

Under these heads can be grouped the majority of the matters which the commissioners will undertake to solve amicably.

Others of great importance are the situation in Russia, the situation in Greece, world trade after the war, the volume of trade which will be permitted to the European neutrals, notably Sweden and Norway. Prospects and conditions of peace also will be gone into.

## ALLIES' FLAG TO FLY BEFORE UNION STATION

In honor of the visiting British Commission, due to arrive this afternoon, the William B. Chubb Camp, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., will at 7 o'clock this morning hoist three flags on the large standards at the Union Station. An American flag will be in the center, flanked on one side by British flag and a French tricolor on the other.

The flags were obtained from Col. W. W. Hart, of the War Department. The flag committee, including George S. Hill, commander of Chubb Camp, to raise the three emblems are: Silas B. Raub, William E. Wolfe and W. E. Garlick. E. Albert Lang, past commander of the camp, will be present.

Billiard cues are chalked automatically by a new device, which revolves a block of chalk as the tips of cues are pressed against it.

## Balfour Lauds President For War to Save Humanity

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into an eloquent expression of approval of the course of the United States in entering the war.

"Your President," he said, "in a most apt and vivid phrase has proclaimed that the world must be made safe for democracy. Democracies, wherever they are to be found, and not least the democracies of the British Empire, will hail the pronouncement as a happy augury.

"That self-governing communities are not to be treated as negligible, simply because they are small; that the ruthless domination of one unscrupulous power imperils the future of civilization and the liberties of mankind; are truths of political ethics which the bitter experience of war is burning into the souls of all freedom-loving peoples.

**Momentous Event.**  
"That this great people should have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into this mighty struggle, prepared for all the efforts and sacrifices that may be required to win success for this most righteous cause, is an event at once so happy and so momentous that only the historian of the future will be able, as I believe, to measure its true proportions."

The scene of the reception of the British diplomat and his distinguished associates upon arriving here on their unprecedented errand was a striking one. As he stepped upon American soil for the first time in forty years, the foreign minister, a tall, spare figure with a ruddy, kindly face, crowned with a head of silvery white hair, advanced eagerly out of a background of brilliantly uniformed figures to clasp the outstretched hand of one of the reception committee.

Mr. Balfour was unwilling to discuss the steps he will take to bring about a close co-operation between the entire allies and the United States.

"You will agree," said Mr. Balfour, "that my first duty as head of a diplomatic mission is to pay my respects to the head of the state to which I have been sent; and no public expression of opinion on points of policy would, I think, be useful or even tolerable until I have had the honor of conferring with your President and learning his views. I have not come here to make speeches or indulge in interviews, but to do what I can to make co-operation easy and effective between those who are striving with all their power to bring about a lasting peace by the only means that can secure it, namely, a successful war."

**Deep Gratification.**  
"Without, however, violating the rule I have just laid down, there are two things which I may permit myself to say—one on my own behalf, the other on behalf of my countrymen in general.

"On my own behalf let me express the deep gratification I feel at being connected in any capacity whatever with events which associate our countrymen in a common effort for a great ideal.

"On behalf of my countrymen let me express our gratitude for all that the citizens of the United States of America

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have done to mitigate the lot of those who in the allied countries have suffered from the cruelties of the most deliberately cruel of all wars. To name no others, the efforts of Mr. Gerard to alleviate the condition of British and other prisoners of war in Germany, and the administrative genius which Mr. Hoover has ungrudgingly devoted to the relief of the unhappy Belgians and French in the territories still in enemy occupation will never be forgotten, while the ceaseless stream of charitable effort has supplied medical and nursing skill to the service of the wounded and the sick.

**Memorable Doings.**  
"These are the memorable doing of a beneficent neutrality. But the days of neutrality are, I rejoice to think, at an end. And the first page is being turned in a new chapter in the history of mankind."

Of the trip over the Britons had little to say. With the exception of two foggy nights, they said fair weather prevailed from the time the vessel on which they embarked slipped quietly out of an English port until the new world was sighted.

## Prominent Financiers Plan Red Cross Day Next Month

Seventeen American financiers yesterday took in hand the financial campaign of the American Red Cross.

Plans for a nation-wide drive for funds with which to finance Red Cross relief work in America's war on Germany were laid by the seventeen money-masters who gathered in Washington. The campaign will be inaugurated in May, on a day to be set aside by President Wilson as Red Cross Day. It will be actively managed throughout by the seventeen financiers.

The leading spirits in the movement are Cleveland H. Dodge and Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York; Julius Rosenwald, of Chicago; Vance McCormick, of Harrisburg, and John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia.

## Victory For Conscription In Both Houses Expected

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last week announcing that the measure which the General Staff of the Army drafted had the united support of the President and the War Department. The letter made a final plea to Chairman Dent to support the bill in the form the President asked.

**Volunteer Plan Failure.**  
The minority report, after declaring the volunteer system is neither "equitable nor democratic," declares that the history of past American wars shows it to be a failure. "If the majority plan were adopted," the report continues, "and again should prove a failure, the conscript would once again be looked on with disfavor."

While if conscription by selection is resorted to at the start, "every citizen will know that those who have been selected have been called to the colors by their country as a universal obligation to serve in the hour of the nation's need."

The majority report filed by Chairman Dent merely digested the provisions of the combination volunteer-conscription bill as finally reported by the committee.

In the Senate, Mr. Chamberlain, chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, leading the debate for the General Staff bill, explained that the bill gave full recognition of the volunteer principle by providing for the increase of the regular army and National guard to a combined strength of 614,748 men, but that the additional increments of 500,000 men would be raised by selective conscription of men between the ages of 19 and 25 exactly as asked by President Wilson and the War Department.

**Minority Files Report.**  
A minority of the Senate committee, consisting of Senators Thomas, Reed, Kirby, and McKellar, filed a report yesterday recording their opinion that while the bill to be passed should have the conscription provision, it should also authorize a trial of the volunteer system in raising the forces needed apart from

those to be added to the present regular and National Guard.

Senators Hitchcock, New, and Sutherland later will submit separate views defending the volunteer army system.

Senator McKellar served notice that he would attempt to obtain the adoption of an amendment authorizing the President first to call for 50,000 volunteers and then to resort to conscription if the soldiers were not forthcoming.

Before another week of the world war has passed into dark history America, profiting by the mistakes of her grim, battle-scarred and experienced allies, probably will, through her Congress, have written into law a statute providing for selective conscription.

America faces a great crisis that cannot be met with a fighting strength recruited under the volunteer system. The volunteer system was a failure in Great Britain. Against a much stronger opposition than that presented in the American Congress the British House of Parliament was obliged to force conscription to bring its military forces to the point where it could cope successfully with its Teuton enemies.

There were but a few of the arguments brought out yesterday when proponent and opponent of the measure waged a day of stern speechmaking and debate in the Senate.

Conscription is a disagreeable word. Those, like Senator Gallinger, of New Hampshire, veteran minority leader of the Senate, who can recall vividly the implied service by force that accompanied drafting in civil war days, base their objections on such methods being applied in the United States until the volunteer system has proven it cannot meet the crisis.

Military officers, whose best years of service have been given to the government, whose opinion the Commander-in-Chief of the Army considers expert, whose opinion is further backed by the Secretary of War, and whose research and practical experience in army life ought to entitle to the highest respect, favor the selective conscription plan.

Lord Northcliffe, whose pungent and

virile exposition of England's mistakes in the war are on record, and give him rank as one of the greatest world's critics on military tactics and systems, supports their view, based indirectly upon the sad experience of "Kitchener's Mob," the first army of 100,000 of the flower of England, who went to the slaughter with true patriotism and by their wholesale sacrifice made it difficult to recruit others.

**Herald Sounds Sentiment.**  
Tomorrow the issue arrives in the House. It arrives handicapped in a sense by a majority report from the House Military Affairs Committee.

The Washington Herald has asked its readers to express themselves upon the question. Many, besides answering in the affirmative or the negative on the conscription plan, have supplemented their opinions with comments. The majority has been overwhelmingly in favor of the administration plan.

This much is evident, and Senator Wadsworth, of New York, who may be soon one of the United States officers on the firing line, expressed it well in his speech yesterday:

"America wants no white feathers or yellow ribbons pinned on the backs of its young men.

"It wants no social ostracism as an argument for patriotic service.

"It wants no men driven by the finger of shame to join the army.

"It wants clean-blooded, active, patriotic young men, not driven by compulsion, but by a universal desire to serve."

**Anti-Conscriptionists Misplaced by Error**  
In The Washington Herald's coupon vote to ascertain the opinion of its readers on conscription the following anti-conscriptionists, through a mechanical error in leaving out a heading, were yesterday placed in the same paragraph as those voting in favor of conscription: Henry C. Lon, 212 F street northwest, N. DuVal Brach, M. D., 609 Twenty-second street northwest, George V. Rose, 34 Rhode Island avenue northwest, M. H. Carroll, H. E. Warner, 1212 Lamont street northwest, Thomas Leonard, 1548 K street northwest, L. R. Elgin, Vienna, Va.

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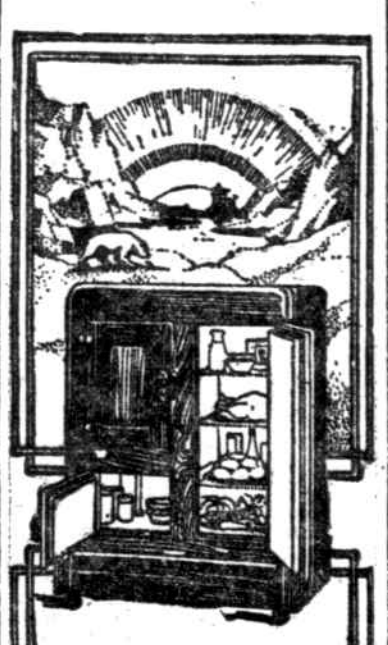
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The picture above shows many of the special exclusive advantages in this number.

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"Sellers" Sanitary Base Construction.  
"Sellers" Glass Drawer Pulls.  
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"Sellers" New All-Metal Bread and Cake Box.  
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"Sellers" Tongue and Groove Joints.  
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